

# At The

- Being Alive Living Room
- Women's Coming Out Group
- The Lambda Library
- Men's Coming Out Group
- Café Lambda
- Eagles (Gay Seniors Group)
- Project HEAL



**November 1994**

# Center

- Being Gay Today Cable TV
- Youth Rap Group
- Lambda Players
- Project Tocsin
- Youth Social Night
- Hate Crimes Reporting Project
- Youth Movie Night
- Youth AIDS/Substance Abuse Prevention

**20th & L, Midtown Sacramento**

**Joanna Cassese, Executive Director**

**(916) 442-0185 or 445-5755 FAX**

## Seroprevalence Study Finished by Craig Spatola

The seroprevalence study that we have been working on so diligently for the last five months is finished. Now I know you are most likely asking yourself "What does this mean?" I'll tell you.

We were asked by the State Office of AIDS to conduct interviews and obtain blood samples from 500 subjects. The subject profile was "Young men ages 17 through 25, who have sex with other men".

The purpose of the study is to determine if there was a correlation between knowledge, behavior, drug/alcohol use, and safer sex practices. Not surprisingly, there was.

The results are not yet complete, so anything I report here is not written in stone, nor is it an epidemiological fact, but the figures look interesting, even unfinished. Our rate of positive results ran in the 6.7-8.9% range, fluctuating for the duration of the study. I don't have a final count as of yet. Do the math yourself. It's not quite one in ten at the highest rate, but close enough.

There is a correlation between safer sex behavior and drug/alcohol use, not that this should surprise anyone; we've known this for years now. The people who tested positive in this study, for the most part, had a high incidence rate of drinking/using while having sex. They also had a high sex partner count, and high risk sexual activity history. To put it bluntly and in layman's terms, they got drunk (high), had lots of sex, and didn't bother using a condom very often. Sound familiar?

Most of the participants who had unsafe sex used the rationalization that "I knew him, and I trusted him" or "It was only that once" and the always popular, "I didn't have any condoms handy". These are common excuses, most people that have unsafe sex use them from time to time. So this wasn't new information.

Almost to a man, the participants in this study knew their HIV/safer sex inside and out. They knew when they were putting themselves at risk, they knew how they were putting themselves at risk. They were each surprised (yes each and everyone of them with the exception of five who knew they were positive before the test) when their test results came back positive.

What does all this mean? I know what I think it means, and you probably have an idea what it means to you, but I can't say for sure until all the results are in. Stay tuned.

## World AIDS Day

Tuesday, December 1st is WORLD AIDS DAY - call The Center at 442-0185 for details.

## From the E.D. by Joanna Cassese

As we enter into the holiday season it is natural for us to reflect upon the past year and what each and every one of us has experienced. Some of us may have suffered a loss be it from the death of a loved one or the end of a relationship. We will face the immediate future with trepidation. Others will be jubilant because we have the opportunity to celebrate this season with renewed energy and a bright outlook.

Whatever situation you may be in we need to remember that there are others who are in need. And there will always be others that are in greater need and pain than we are. And that's why the Lambda Community exists - because there are so many people that need our help in one way or another.

At times I wonder why I do what I do. And every time I ask that question the universe always gives me an answer in some form. This past month the answer came in the form of "thank you for being here" from a special member of our Being Alive Living Room. It came in the form of "thank you for being here" from a lesbian recently diagnosed with breast cancer. And it came in the form of "thank you for being here" from a wonderful volunteer who told me his life is so much more positive because we give him a reason to wake up in the morning.

I can go on and on about why I do what I do, why we do what we do. But now I need to ask something of you, our readers and or donors. First of all we want to thank all of you for "being there." Without your generous donations of money, services and time we could not do what is needed in our community.

The Lambda Community Center needs your donations more than ever, because we are doing more than ever. Our TREE OF HOPE fundraiser will be underway by the end of this month. You will be receiving an ornament in the mail and an opportunity to make a donation in the memory of someone you have lost to AIDS or breast cancer - or just because you care. Please keep in mind all of the people who have less than we have this year and be as generous as possible. Your donation will enable the staff and volunteers at the Lambda Community Center to continue our programs and help those who have no one else to turn to.

Have a wonderful  Thanksgiving!

The staff and board of the Lambda Community Center will never forget our friend,  
**Michael Himovitz**  
and his love of our community.



## A Great Gift to Share by Franklin Anderson

Even at an early age, Adam knew he was different. Sure, he played sports, climbed trees and joined the Boy Scouts like most young boys. However, deep within there was a sense he didn't belong.

Unlike Adam, Katie was always the life of the party. Everyone loved her, and she had hundreds of friends. Then her true nature emerged, turning her life upside down.

Want to learn more about Adam and Katie, come join us in welcoming Paulette Jacobson and Tony Ferrante to Cafe Lambda on November 11, from 8pm to 10pm.

Paulette and Tony will be reading excerpts from and signing copies of their book, "Letters From The Closet" based on the authors' popular lecture series, "Shades of Diversity," which has been delivered to thousands of college students, corporate managers and government professionals over the past decade. This timely book tells us more about our gay and lesbian children, parents, friends, colleagues and neighbors. It is a valuable resource for all who understand the need for coming together as a united family in the coming years.

## Center Tidbits

Mark your calendar now - The Lambda Center will once again celebrate the season with our annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony on Saturday December 3rd. The festivities begin at 6PM and will feature caroling with the Sacramento Women's Chorus and the Sacramento Men's Chorus.

Bring your significant other - two and/or four footed - and have your picture taken with Santa Claus; a neat Christmas present. Or maybe take the plunge and do a short videotape to send to a loved one or relative - a unique "Happy Holidays from us"! Both will be available after the ceremony.

While you're there, buy your tree at the second annual Lambda Christmas Tree lot. Stocking suffers, hot beverages and baked goods will be available.

Did you know that our most popular new program, *The Eagles*, now sports over 140 members? From games to RV trips - from photography to dancing - they offer something for nearly everybody in the "over 50" group. If you're interested in this popular and energetic group, call Roy at The Center.

## Lambda Reaches Out by Karen Moors

I am sure by now many of you are wondering who that new person is upstairs. Well, I am happy to announce I am the new AmeriCorp member you heard about in the last newsletter. I am thrilled to be here and I am excited to be embarking on such a remarkable and much needed program.

First, let me tell you a bit about AmeriCorp. AmeriCorp, a national service corps, which was designed after the Peace Corp, was signed into law Sept, 21, 1993. It is now up and running just one year later. Our motto is: GETTING THINGS DONE, and I hope to live up to that philosophy during my year of service.

There are many different ways to serve in AmeriCorp, but since my main interest lies in the health field, (particularly in the deaf community), I choose to work in the AIDS education, prevention, and outreach program. Well, they chose me. There are 40 members nation wide working on this particular project. They are located in five cities across the United States, each city having 8 members. Our Sacramento Chapter is extremely motivated and dedicated in helping our community in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The program we are developing here at the Lambda Center is mainly geared toward the Deaf/Hearing Impaired community. There is a great need in Sacramento to serve this community. Even though the program is in its initial stages, it is exciting to see where it could go. Every day I am learning something new. The first order of business is to get a TTY # here at the center that can answer questions relating to HIV/AIDS or to the Center in general. With the help and active participation of members of the deaf community, I hope to deal with some of the problems and concerns facing them.

I am new to this field. I am sure I will make mistakes, so if you have any thoughts or suggestions feel free to call me at 442-0815. I would love to hear from you!! If anyone is interested in donating their time or services to this project it would be greatly appreciated.

On quite another note, the Lambda Fund is now accepting applications for board membership. Share your expertise - share your visions for our community. Then help make it all come true.

For further information, call Joanna at The Center or contact a current board member. You'll be glad you did.



## Lowest Airfares



### Gay & Lesbian Night at Disneyland 3 Days • Dec 16-18

Featuring 2 nights at the famous Disneyland Hotel, round trip airfare on Southwestern Airlines to/from Burbank or Ontario, transfers to/from the hotel, admission to Disneyland on the night of December 16th and room taxes.

\$359 pp/dbl occ, \$315 single, \$299 p.p./trip occ., \$229 p.p./quad occ.

Call us and ask about Gay & Lesbian vacations, including  
RSVP & Olivia Cruises,  
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### A Gay Fantasia on National Themes ANGELS IN AMERICA

#### PART I

"The Millenium Approaches"

Saturday, February 4 - \$69

#### PART II

"Perestroika"

Sunday, February 27 - \$62

Includes main floor or front balcony seating and round trip transportation. No-host lunch stop at Pier 39, Fisherman's Wharf prior to matinee.



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## November 1994

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Lambda Players News</b> The Lambda Players will be performing "Baltimore Waltz" on the 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 and 26th of November at the 24th Street Studio. For more information, call 442-7752.		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 2-5PM Being Alive Living Room 6:00PM Women's C/out Group 7:30PM CODA	<b>4</b> 5:45PM Youth Group 8:00PM Café Lambda	<b>5</b> 9:00AM Eagles Walking 8:00PM - Mid Youth Social
<b>6</b> 10:00AM Eagles Biking	<b>7</b> 5:30PM Men's Coming Out Grp 7:00PM HEAL Support Group	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 6:30PM Eagles Game night 6:30PM Men of Color Support Group 7:00PM Men's Focus Group	<b>10</b> 2-5PM Being Alive Living Room 6:00PM Women's C/out Group 7:30PM CODA	<b>11</b> 5:45PM Youth Group 8:00PM Café Lambda	<b>12</b> 8AM - 4:30PM Traffic School 9:00AM Eagles Walking 8:00PM - Mid Youth Social
<b>13</b> 10:00AM Eagles Biking 6:30PM Sacramento Area Bisexual Network 6:30PM Gay Fathers of Sacramento	<b>14</b> 5:30PM Men's Coming Out Grp 7:00PM HEAL Support Group	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 6:30PM Board of Directors	<b>17</b> 2-5PM Being Alive Living Room 6:00PM Women's C/out Group 7:30PM CODA	<b>18</b> 5:45PM Youth Group 8:00PM Café Lambda	<b>19</b> 9:00AM Eagles Walking 8:00PM - Mid Youth Social
<b>20</b> 10:00AM Eagles Biking	<b>21</b> 5:30PM Men's Coming Out Grp 7:00PM HEAL Support Group	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:30PM Eagles Thanksgiving Potluck 6:30PM Men of Color Support Group 7:00PM Men's Focus Group	 <b>24</b>	<b>25</b> The Center will be closed for Thanksgiving on both days.	<b>26</b> 9:00AM Eagles Walking 8:00PM - Mid Youth Social
<b>27</b> 10:00AM Eagles Biking 3:00PM Twin Spirits Veterans 6:30PM Sacramento Area Bisexual Network	<b>28</b> 5:30PM Men's Coming Out Grp 7:00PM HEAL Support Group	<b>29</b> 7:00PM CGNIE	<b>30</b>	<b>CAFE LAMBDA</b> Nov 4 <sup>th</sup> Hosted by Delta Lambda Phi from UC Davis Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> Book Signing & reading by authors of "Letters From The Closet" Nov 18 <sup>th</sup> The Songbird of Sorona, Laua Bowley, returns to Café Lambda for a long-awaited return engagement.		

**Being Gay Today** - Sacramento Cable channel 17: Thurs 10PM, Fri 4PM and Sat 10AM.

- Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> Features an interview with Lt. Andrew Holmes of the California National Guard, local NCOD coverage, local coverage of the Rainbow Festival and poems by Michael Gorman.
- Nov 10<sup>th</sup> Momentum presents a National Coming Out Day special and a program on the latest antics of the radical right.
- Nov 17<sup>th</sup> Another local show; this week we feature Greater Sacramento Area Couples.
- Nov 24<sup>th</sup> Another hour of great out-of-area programming.





We've listed many of The Center's programs in previous issues as well as on our masthead. Are you surprised at the number and scope of them? If so, you're not alone. It's your support that keeps the doors open and keeps these programs alive. Whether it's five dollars or five thousand dollars - it all adds up and pays the bills. Please, do it now. Thank You!

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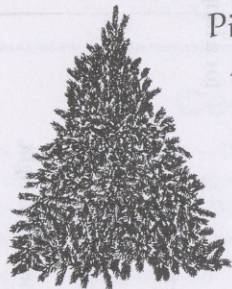
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**Lambda Community Center**

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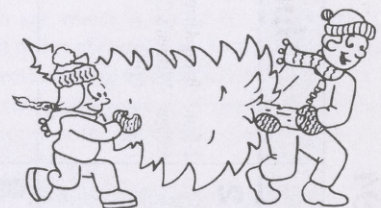


Pick up your Christmas Tree at the Lambda Center's Second Annual Tree Lot - opening right after our gala 3rd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Celebration on Saturday, December 3 at 6:00pm.

Mon - Thurs ..... 4:00PM - 10:00PM

Fri - Sat ..... Noon - Midnight

Sunday ..... Noon - 6:00PM



**Sacramento Community's Square Dance Club**



"Come on...  
Let's Dance!"

It's certainly more fun than you had square dancing in gym class!

Call today for  
more information!

**Capital City Squares**

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Call 484-5646 re Chapter membership, donations or merchandise

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